

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1407
By Winningham

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Amos Nicholas on the occasion of his retirement as Pickett County Road Superintendent.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to honor those exemplary citizens who have contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than Pickett County Road Superintendent Amos Nicholas, who was born in Pickett County, in Byrdstown, Tennessee, in the Moodyville community, on April 24, 1942; and

WHEREAS, few people have touched as many lives as Mr. Amos Nicholas, a gentleman who has attained and maintained excellence as a public servant during his illustrious twenty-year tenure as Pickett County Road Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, the son of the late Joe H. and Bercelia (Poore) Nicholas, Amos Nicholas attended two old country elementary schools in Pickett County, Cedar Grove and Moodyville, and also went to Byrdstown Elementary for a short time; and

WHEREAS, he dropped out of Pickett County High School and served in the Airborne Unit and Honor Guard Unit of the United States Army during the Vietnam era, receiving his honorable discharge in 1966; he returned to Pickett County High School a few years later on the GI Bill, while at the same time driving a school bus and farming, and proudly graduated in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Amos Nicholas then attended Livingston Vocational Technical School night classes on the GI Bill, receiving a State diploma as a Machinist I in 1975; and

WHEREAS, Amos Nicholas began his employment with the Pickett County Highway Department in 1974, serving for four years as a foreman; he then worked part-time with Pickett

County Soil Conservation as a county technician, while also farming, raising tobacco, and dairying; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Amos Nicholas was elected Pickett County Road Superintendent, and he will retire from this position on August 31, 2006; he was the first man to be re-elected to the office since 1966, and the first and only man to hold this office for five consecutive terms; and

WHEREAS, for twenty years, he has dedicated himself, his time, and his considerable talents to building and maintaining the best roads possible for the citizens of Pickett County; he has supervised the improvements of more roads than have the superintendents of any surrounding counties, and his is the only county in the State to put the bridges in top shape, enabling the allotted funds for bridges to be used for State Aid roads; and

WHEREAS, Pickett County has benefited greatly from Mr. Nicholas's diligence on behalf of the county and his close attention to the needs of his fellow citizens; he modestly attributes his success as Road Superintendent to the hard work of his employees and the support of his constituents; and

WHEREAS, a consummate professional in his field, Mr. Nicholas has been an active member of the Tennessee County Highway Officials Association and the Region II Highway Association; and

WHEREAS, his professional accomplishments aside, Amos Nicholas is most grateful for the love and support of his wife, Isabella Wilson, whom he married on March 20, 1971; since that fateful day, they have resided happily in the same Moodyville community in which he was born, and they are the proud parents of four children: Amy, Amelia, Annette, and George; and the proud grandparents of seven grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Amos Nicholas is a person of impeccable morals and irreproachable integrity, and he has worked assiduously in numerous capacities to establish a brighter future for the good people of Pickett County; in his well-deserved retirement, he plans to farm, fish, and spend more time with his children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Amos Nicholas has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues, employees, and the entire citizenry of Pickett County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Amos Nicholas our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors, even as we salute his exemplary twenty-year career spent in service to the Pickett County Highway Department as Road Superintendent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.